

# Grandma's Gardens' Bed Preparation Recipe for Perennial and Annual Flowers



Our friends who have used Grandma's recipe have had one common complaint: their plants looked and bloomed like three-year-old established plants in one season! Try experimenting and see what you can cook up.

Select an area and then take note of whether it's located in full sun, part sun or shade. Specific plants require varying amounts of sunlight and moisture for proper growth.

Remove sod if required, till soil to loosen and aerate.

Add 2/3 processed top soil to 1/3 compost, then till into the existing ground. Add perlite for drainage and till in well.

Blend in Plant-tone organic fertilizer or Start 'n Grow per container instructions. Lightly work into the soil and water in well. This can be done every 6 to 8 weeks through September.

If you're making a raised bed as in foreground above, please realize that settling will occur. Planting can take place before or after applying a light layer of mulch.

Sprinkle in Treflan or Preen at the rate of 1 lb. per 160 square feet. It prevents most weed seeds from germinating and should be applied in spring, then again in August if weeds are a problem. It will not kill existing weeds, only prevent their seeds from sprouting.

Gently loosen the roots of your new plants and place in the holes. Don't forget to water them in their container before removing from pots. The top of the soil around the plant should be even with the ground, no deeper.

Backfill around your plants with an ample amount of Grandma's Planting Mix and firm plants in place. Water well with Ferti-lome Root Stimulator. A time-release fertilizer such as Osmocote beads can be added to the planting mix if you don't want to fertilize as often.

Water your new planted friends as needed. For annuals, you can add a water-soluble fertilizer such as Miracle-Gro weekly for bunches and bunches of blooms!

Be prepared for lots of compliments on your colorful gardens.



**Grandma's  
Gardens & Landscape**

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